

# Botanical Gazette.

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EDITORIAL.—Never have our friends come forward more readily to the support of the GAZETTE than in the beginning of this fifth volume. More subscriptions have been received than ever before in the same time. Many letters have come expressing surprise that such a publication as the GAZETTE existed, for the writers had never heard of it. Now this kind of knowledge will have to be spread by botanical friends, as it would be impossible to have the GAZETTE advertised in such a way as to come to the knowledge of every botanist. If our friends, in their correspondence, will mention the GAZETTE and recommend, at least, applying for a sample copy, many persons will be reached who will be glad to become subscribers. The GAZETTE can pay for itself now, but some such effort to increase our subscription list will enable us to pay for plates, by which we can secure some exceedingly valuable articles. That our friends may know in what estimation the GAZETTE is held by our leading botanists and thus feel a confidence in recommending it to any of their friends, we make the following quotation from the American Journal of Science and Arts for February: "It (the GAZETTE) is an organ for communication among botanists, for the prompt publication of notes and observations, and of those contributions to knowledge which every accurate observer may do his part in, but which must be collected in order to be preserved and utilized. New species are published or announced in it, but it is rather an organ for new observations and botanical news. It is well conducted; it is very useful; we learn that it is in a condition which insures its continuance, and that every increase in the subscription will go towards increasing its value. Our botanists should now see that it is worthily supported. Indeed they can hardly do without it."

THE GENUS *LEAVENWORTHIA* has been almost from the first involved in some difficulty as to the species. Having now some new material, I wish to bring the present state of the case before the botanists of the Trans-Alleghanian States it inhabits in order to obtain from them further collections and observations in the course of the ensuing spring and early summer. With such aid I may then hope to determine the number and distinction of the species.

Two species were originally established by Dr. Torrey; *L. aurea*, with distinct style and embryo nearly straight, and *L. Michauxii*, with style almost wanting and radicle oblique. The corolla of the first was said to be yellow, upon the authority of the original collector, Dr. Leavenworth. Indeed one of his specimens in the Shortian herbari-